

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original): The method of Claim 2 21, wherein said polyketide is not naturally produced by the host cell.
4. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 4 21, wherein said host cell is a Streptomyces host cell.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 3, wherein said polyketide is produced by [a] 6-deoxyerythronolide B synthase (DEBS).
7. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 3, wherein said polyketide is produced by [a] 8,8a-deoxyoleandolide synthase.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 8 6, wherein 8,8a-dihydroxy-6-deoxyerythronolide B is produced.
11. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 8 9, wherein 8,8a-dihydroxyoleandolide is produced.

12. (Original): The method of Claim 10, said method comprising culturing a host cell other than *Streptomyces antibioticus* that expresses DEBS and OleP under conditions such that 8,8a-dihydroxy-6-deoxyerythronolide B is produced.

13. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 11, said method comprising culturing a host cell other than *Streptomyces antibioticus* that expresses 8,8a deoxyoleandolide synthase ~~DEBS~~ and OleP under conditions such that 8,8a-dihydroxyoleandolide is produced.

14. (Original): The method of Claim 12, wherein said host cell is a *Streptomyces* host cell.

15. (Original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said host cell is a *Streptomyces* host cell.

16. (Original): The method of Claim 14, wherein said host cell is *S. lividans*.

17. (Original): The method of Claim 15, wherein said host cell is *S. lividans*.

18.-20. (Canceled)

21. (New): A method for introducing one or more hydroxyl groups or an epoxide into a polyketide, which method comprises
expressing a recombinant gene encoding OleP in a host cell,
wherein said OleP is not naturally expressed by the host cell,
wherein a hydroxyl group is introduced at carbon 8 or 8a; and
wherein an erythromycin or oleandomycin polyketide is produced.

22. (New): The method of claim 21,
wherein the polyketide is 8,8a dihydroxy-6-deoxyerythronolide B or 8,8a-dihydroxyoleandolide.